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Attorney Docket No. 13716
2058-181**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claims 1, 12, 29, and 32-34 and cancel Claims 26, 28, 30-31, and 35-36 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of attaching a biological molecule to a solid support ~~having at least one available amino group, the method comprising:~~

(a) providing a solid support comprised of an organic polymer having at least one available amino group;

(b) (a) reacting the available amino group on the solid support with an activating compound, the activating compound having the structure:



wherein L_1 and L_2 are leaving groups, and X is a moiety capable of nucleophilic substitution so that the reaction results in L_1 being displaced by the available amino group on the solid support to form an activated support;

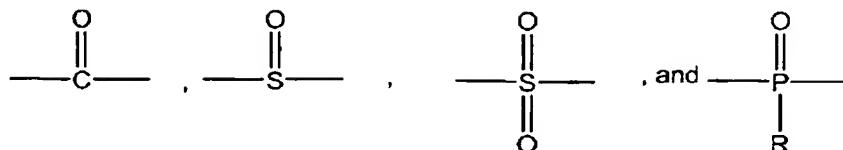
(c) (b) providing a biological molecule having at least one reactive amino, thiol, or hydroxyl group, the biological molecule being a macromolecule selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, polypeptide chains, and carbohydrates; and

(d) (c) reacting the biological molecule with the activated support, thereby displacing L_2 and covalently attaching the biological molecule to the solid support.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein one or both of L_1 and L_2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, imidazole, triazole, pyrrole, pyrazole, thiazole, tetrazole, and O-Aryl-R, and wherein R is selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, and alkoxy moiety.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of:

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wherein

R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, and OR¹;R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl and aryl; and wherein

the alkyl and aryl groups have having no greater than about 18 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the activating compound is 1,2,4-carbonyl di-triazole.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein step (b) comprises depositing between about 5 to about 25 nanoliters of the biological molecule in a circular spot at one or more sites on the activated support, wherein the circular spot has a diameter of between about 10 microns to about 500 microns at one or more sites on the activated support.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein one or both of the activating compound and the biological molecule is printed onto the solid support.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein in one or both of step (b), and step (c), the reaction occurs in a humid chamber.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein in one or both of step (b), and step (c), the reaction occurs in a humid chamber.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein step (a) occurs in an organic solution.

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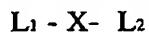
10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9 wherein step (a) occurs in the presence of a tertiary organic base.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10 wherein step (c) occurs in an aqueous solution.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of attaching a biological molecule having at least one reactive amino, thiol or hydroxyl group to a solid support, the method comprising:

(a) providing a solid support comprised of an organic polymer having at least one available amino group, the solid support selected from the group consisting of a plate and a film;

(b) reacting the available amino group on the solid support with an activating compound, the activating compound having the structure:



wherein L_1 and L_2 are leaving groups, and X is capable of nucleophilic substitution so that the reaction results in L_1 being displaced by the available amino group on the solid support to form an activated support;

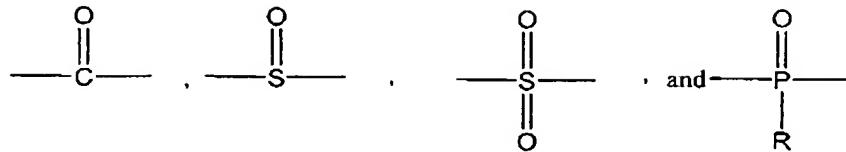
(c) providing a biological molecule having at least one reactive amino, thiol, or hydroxyl group, the biological molecule being a macromolecule; and

(d) reacting the biological molecule with the activated support, thereby displacing L_2 and covalently attaching the biological molecule to the solid support.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein one or both of L_1 and L_2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, imidazole, triazole, pyrrole pyrazole, thiazole, tetrazole, and O-Aryl-R, and wherein R is selected from the group consisting of halogen, nitro, cyano, and alkoxy moiety.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of:

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wherein

R is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, aryl, and OR¹;R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl and aryl, and wherein the alkyl and aryl groups have no greater than about 18 carbon atoms.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein the activating compound is 1,2,4-carbonyl di-triazole.

16. – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of washing from the solid support non-bound compounds after step (a) and before step (c).

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A method of attaching a biological molecule to a solid support comprising:

(a) providing a solid support comprised of an organic polymer having at least one available amino group, the solid support being formed from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, agarose, polypropylene, polystyrene, polymethacrylate, and nylon;

(b) reacting the available amino group on the solid support with an activating compound, the activating compound having the structure:

L₁ - X - L₂

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wherein L₁ and L₂ are leaving groups, and X is a moiety capable of nucleophilic substitution so that the reaction results in L₁ being displaced by the available amino group on the solid support to form an activated support;

(c) providing a biological molecule having at least one reactive amino, thiol, or hydroxyl group, the biological molecule being a macromolecule selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, polypeptide chains, and carbohydrates; and

(d) reacting the biological molecule with the activated support, thereby displacing L₂ and covalently attaching the biological molecule to the solid support.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20 further comprising the step of washing from the solid support non-bound compounds after step (b) and before step (d).

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20 wherein step (b) comprises depositing between about 5 to about 25 nanoliters of the biological molecule in a circular spot at one or more sites on the activated support, wherein the circular spot has a diameter of between about 10 microns to about 500 microns at one or more sites on the activated support.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20 wherein one or both of the activating compound and the biological molecule is printed on the solid substrate.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20 wherein in one or both of step (b) and step (d), the reaction occurs in a humid chamber.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 20 wherein the biological molecule is an oligonucleotide having at least one free amino or thiol group.

26. Canceled.

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27. (Currently Amended) A method of attaching a biological molecule to a solid support, the method comprising:

(a) providing a solid support comprised of an organic polymer having at least one available amino group, the solid support being formed from a material selected from the group consisting of cellulose, agarose, polypropylene, polystyrene, polymethacrylate, and nylon;

(b) reacting the available amino group on the solid support with an activating compound, the activating compound having the structure:



wherein L_1 and L_2 are leaving groups, and X is capable of nucleophilic substitution so that the reaction results in L_1 being displaced by the available amino group on the solid support to form an activated support;

(c) providing a biological molecule having at least one reactive amino, thiol, or hydroxyl group, the biological molecule being a macromolecule; and

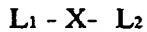
(d) reacting the biological molecule with the activated support, thereby displacing L_2 and covalently attaching the biological molecule to the solid support.

28. Canceled.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of attaching a biological molecule to a solid support comprising:

(a) providing a solid support comprised of an organic polymer having at least one available amino group;

(b) reacting the available amino group on the solid support with an activating compound, the activating compound having the structure:



wherein L_1 and L_2 are leaving groups, and X is a moiety capable of nucleophilic substitution so that the reaction results in L_1 being displaced by the available amino group on the solid support to form an activated support;

(c) providing a biological molecule, wherein the biological molecule is selected from J:\BECKMAN\13716\21\RESPONSE-2.DOC

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the group consisting of hormones, therapeutic drugs, and drugs of abuse; and

(d) reacting the biological molecule with the activated support, thereby displacing L₂ and covalently attaching the biological molecule to the solid support.

30.-31. Canceled.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30 1 wherein the solid support is a plate or a film.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30 1 wherein the solid support is an amine derivatized organic polymer selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polystyrene, polymethacrylate, and nylon.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 30 1 wherein the biological molecule is an amino derivatized oligonucleotide.

35.-36. Canceled.